

MILLER GOT \$10,000 A DAY.

ELIZABETH HAHN.

Miller's Cashier—She Handled \$10,000 a Day.

Miss Hahn, Who Handled His Money, Received \$300,000 a Month from Dupes.

Money Came So Fast That Force of Clerks Was Constantly Increased.

Louis Miller Had His Hands Full and Schlesinger Took in \$45,000.

Of all the statements made by employees of the late Franklin Syndicate none is more important to show what an immense swindling business W. F. Miller and his gang did than is given by Miss Elizabeth Hahn, who had charge of part of the money.

Miss Hahn, toward the last days of the year, was handed on an average of \$10,000 a day, or about \$300,000 a month. She also tells interesting facts about Schlesinger and others, showing that from the biggest to the lowest the swindle was a Klondike for all. Big salaries were the order of the day.

Miller was not on the payroll. Edward Schlesinger's salary was \$300 a week. His address was on the books of the concern as "Staten Island." Daily, who was appointed receiver, got \$50 a week. T. Sullivan, who was the receiving sales and took in all the cash, got \$50 a week.

MISS REID GOT \$50.

Miss Reid, the head typewriter, was employed at \$10 a week. She was recommended by a typewriter company which had known her for ten years as an expert. She was subsequently raised to \$20, and when she proceeded to Leslie's position got \$50.

Miller's mother brought business to him for \$500,000 commission.

Following is Miss Hahn's statement: "At the instigation of Charles Schmidt, who is the Miller's brother-in-law, I went to work for W. F. Miller on Sept. 2. When I began the entire working force consisted of Louis Miller, Charles Schmidt, Cecil Leslie and myself. The business was not large and the top floor of 14 Floyd street was ample enough to transact it.

"In November Mr. Leslie assigned me to assist Louis Miller in the mail department. I handled on an average \$10,000 a day in express and postal orders and checks. This is exclusive of the amount which passed through Louis Miller's hands.

"As nearly as I can estimate \$300,000 passed through my hands. The daily receipts of money kept increasing at a great rate, even to the day when the crash came.

"Schlesinger came first to the office in October. He at once assumed charge and ran things to suit himself. His name was at once put on the payroll at \$200 a week. W. F. Miller was not on the payroll, but he carried the sack.

LAST DAY'S RECEIPTS.

"On the last day of the syndicate I had counted the day's mailing receipts and tied them up in a bundle. They amounted to \$4500. Louis Miller came and asked me to place the money I had in a sack which he had. This I did. I don't know whether there was any other money in it at that time. This is the bag that was taken to the house of Mrs. Gorrie.

"Mrs. Miller, mother of W. F., helped the business by procuring investors, at the usual commission. In this she was very successful. To my positive knowledge she brought in \$200,000 worth of business during the last week, collecting \$100, the usual 5 per cent.

Miss Thomas every night received \$5,000 for the next day's dividends. This is her statement:

"I only worked for the Franklin Syndicate ten days as paying teller, but during that time I handled enough money to make me independently rich.

"For from twelve to fourteen hours each day I was kept busy paying out the weekly profits to investors.

\$50,000 IN TEN DAYS.

"Every evening there was left with me \$5,000 with which to pay dividends the following day. This amount I usually placed in a side under the glass plate over which I paid the money. Any one could have secured this amount by merely reaching through the small window of my cage and taking it from its hiding place. It was never put under lock and key.

"During the last week's existence of the concern I paid out \$5,000 in dividends, which represents \$50,000 capital invested. This represented the vitality of Floyd street and did not include any outside deposits.

"On the evening of the day of the finale of the concern I had \$1,000 left, which the Sheriff seized, although a hungry mob was at the window clamoring for dividends."

Miss Hahn said that the Rev. Dr. Meredith, of the Tompkins Avenue Church, was an investor.

DR. MEREDITH'S DENIAL.

In reply to this, though, Dr. Meredith says:

"When I found Miller was in a big swindling game I denounced the business and told him that he must leave the country."

"I shared to me that he would leave the syndicate. He came to me days later and showed me a receipt which he claimed was the one which he had received from the syndicate."

"I told him that he would have to leave the country. He said he would leave the country. He said he would leave the country."

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FORCED MILLER OUT.

"A few weeks later I heard he was backsliding and doing business on a larger scale. I again went to him at his place of business and told him I wanted to talk to him.

"He brushed me aside, saying he had no time to talk to me.

"I then told him he would have to resign from the church. His reply was, 'I will think about it.'

"Early in June the syndicate was no longer what I appointed a committee to draw up a list of resignation. This was presented to him by my brother Richard, and he signed it. That settled our connections."

"It is now evident that the total receipts of the swindle, including that received by me, amounted in the last month to \$1,500,000. Of this \$500,000 was paid out."

SCHLESINGER GOT \$45,000.

The mystery of the alligator bag carried by Miller from the room of the syndicate in Brooklyn to the offices of Col. Ammon in the first panic following the raid has been partly cleared away. That bag contained \$45,000. There have been many theories regarding the final disposition of this bag.

Messrs. Beiler and Flash, the attorneys for the creditors, suggested that probably, Miss L. C. Murphy, the stenographer for Louis J. Grant, whose room was left under the room of the syndicate, had thrown a certain measure of light on the matter. Below is Miss Murphy's statement showing that the bag put by Miller under her desk was given by her to Schlesinger, who was talking with Col. Ammon.

"Replying to your inquiry," says Miss Murphy, "as to what became of a bag alleged to have contained \$45,000 which was left under my desk on the afternoon of Nov. 24 last, and also as to my knowledge of the Franklin Syndicate, I wish to state that I know nothing about the Franklin Syndicate, and never heard of it until after the day that Miller, of 50 per cent, fame, disappeared. I had seen this Miller quite frequently in passing to and from his lawyer's office, but did not know his name. Col. Ammon, Miller's lawyer, had his office adjoining mine."

"I have no idea what became of the bag alleged to have contained \$45,000, and which was left under my desk. I gave it to a man who, by his description, tallies with Schlesinger, and he was with Miller and his associates in Col. Ammon's office."

"That afternoon I had been taking stenographic notes for Mr. Grant in his private room, and when I returned to my room to transcribe the same, I found an alligator bag under my desk. I supposed that some one in Col. Ammon's office had put it there and returned it to that office. Since then I have learned that the bag contained money, and I inquired of Mr. Ammon if it was really a fact that the bag contained the money the newspapers said it did. He replied, 'Yes, I heard it contained \$45,000. This is all I know about the whole transaction.'

"I beg further to state that the no-party that has been given me in this matter, and the way that the detective have forced interviews with me—going so far as to call at my home—has caused a great deal of worry and worry to my family. This is the only statement I have ever made in reference to this affair, and were it not for repeated and extravagant insinuations of my knowledge of such extreme and dishonest transactions I would not make it."

(Signed) L. C. MURPHY.

COURT BEGINS WORK.

The first step toward the unveiling of the tangled web of the collapse of the Franklin Syndicate has been taken by an order from Judge Thomas, of the United States District Court, which authorizes counsel for the petitioning creditors to the bankruptcy proceeding to subpoena William F. Miller and all other persons whose testimony may be material to the case, before August 3.

Not Clearer than His First One Concerning the Arrest of Miller.

Capt. Reynolds, of Brooklyn, who was with Chief Devery, that his report of the arrest of Miller was "dope" and

REYNOLDS'S SECOND REPORT

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I WILL DO ALL I CAN TO SAVE MOLINEUX.

BY BARTOW S. WEEKS.

"Now that Roland B. Molineux is in the death cell at Sing Sing awaiting death in the electric chair in the week beginning March 23, do you not think, Mr. Weeks, that in offering no defense to the case of the prosecution you made a colossal blunder?" asked an Evening World reporter of Bartow S. Weeks, senior counsel for Molineux, this afternoon.

"The old trial is past and gone," said Mr. Weeks reflectively. "Old people often think that if they could only go back to the days of their childhood with the experience acquired through life, they would be an unequalled success and be able to steer straight."

"If I had known that the verdict of the jury was to have been 'guilty of



BARTOW S. WEEKS.

DID WEEKS BLUNDER?

Everybody is talking of the Molineux case. Everybody is thinking of it.

Everybody has a theory about it. Thousands discussing it in the cars, on the streets and in public places, say they believe that the evidence was not sufficient to convict him. The great question that is pending in the minds and consciences of people who are jealous of the fairness of our courts, and who wish to see justice remain ever spotless and blameless: Was everything done to save Molineux that could have been done? Out of this grow other like questions: Could Molineux have saved himself? What could he have done to establish his innocence? What did his lawyers have done? Did they blunder in handling his defense or did they do all they could? Are there witnesses they might have called? Is there any evidence they could have presented? Is there any they should have presented?

The case is over—said Recorder Goff yesterday in reply to Molineux's plea in his own defense—so far as the trial court is concerned, but the greater, more important court, the American public, is still considering it, and for this reason The Evening World throws

open its columns for the presentation of any new evidence or new suggestions concerning the old evidence that its readers may be able to make.

What would you have done to save Molineux had you been his lawyer?

What evidence would you have offered?

What witnesses would you have called?

Is there any new light you could have thrown upon the case?

All readers of The Evening World have no doubt followed the history of this great criminal trial closely, and are familiar with all the facts presented to the jury, and all are competent to give some answer to these questions.

The Evening World will make it worth your while to ponder and study the Molineux case a little. It will give \$100 in prizes for the best replies to the questions here put forward, the replies not to exceed 100 words in length:

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TO SQUEEZE LIQUOR MEN

Bond Companies in Alleged Combine of Rates.

It was reported to-day that a combination has practically been formed to stop rate-cutting on bonds for liquor tax certificates.

For some time after the Raines law went into effect the greater part of the bond business was done by the Fidelity and Deposit Company, of Maryland, known in excise circles as the "Fid Company." There is also the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company, also a Maryland corporation. This is known as the "Crocker Company." Andrew Friedman being its vice-president.

These companies have each charged \$10 for excise bonds in this county during the past year. When the Raines law went into effect the rate was \$15 per bond. The National Surety Company, a New York corporation, has also got \$10 during the past year.

The other companies are said to have issued bonds at lower rates, one company going as low as \$5, it is reported. Under the new agreement, it is said, \$20 will be charged for bonds in New York county, and under conditions which will practically relieve the companies of all chance of loss.

One of the other companies charges from \$5 to \$8, another from \$5 to \$5. It is said that one company has written a few bonds at \$2.50.

"That is due to the course of the liquor representatives," said an official of one of these companies. "These company charges \$10, if it is known that the brewer's representative is one of the 'bunch' that takes a 'take-off' the rate is \$5."

"Terms as arranged by the new scheme provide, in effect, that no bonds shall be written without satisfactory indemnity by the applicant or his brewer unless the applicant has had a 'take-off' certificate ever since the Raines law went into effect. The last clause will bar out a large proportion of poorer dealers, and consequently most of them will have to give a bond to the Company in order to get a bond."

Warden Johnson said to an Evening World reporter at Sing Sing this morning that Molineux would probably be executed at Dannemora prison, in the Eastern Adirondacks.

A bill has been introduced in the Assembly, said Mr. Johnson, "at the suggestion of State Superintendent of Prisons Collins providing for the erection of a brand-new execution plant at Dannemora, with condemned cells, death-house, an electric plant and a modernized and improved chair, to which all murderers convicted in this State will be sent for execution."

"The bill has the warm indorsement of all the prison officials, and I think that it will be passed and signed at once, Gov. Roosevelt is in favor of the measure."

"Each of the three prisons, Sing Sing, Auburn and Dannemora, now has an apparatus. It costs \$3,000 a year space to maintain them. The new plant could be put in place for \$100,000 and run at much less expense."

"Sing Sing is too near New York City. The executions here are very demoralizing to prison officials. They have a markedly depressing effect on the other prisoners, which lasts for a week after each execution. Not only that, but they help to increase the visitor nuisance here."

"In last August alone there were 1,700 visitors to the prison, and three guards had their time fully taken up with showing them around."

"The arguments are all in favor of sending the condemned ones to Dannemora."

NOT MRS. MOLINEUX.

"One Who Knows" Offers to Tell of Mysterious Woman at the Barnet Funeral.

The Evening World received this letter to-day, mailed this morning at Station "T," which is the branch post-office at 319 Third avenue, between One Hundred and Sixty-fifth and One Hundred and Sixty-sixth streets:

New York City, Feb. 17, 1900.
To Your Valuable Evening Paper, Gentlemen: It was not Mr. Blanche Molineux, that approached me, but Henry C. Barnett's brother at the Church of the Ascension, Fifth avenue and Tenth street, New York City.

If Mr. Edward Barnett would like an interview with the person that was there let him name the hour and place and the mystery will be solved.
ONE WHO KNOWS.

HE LIKES MOLINEUX.

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BOER TROOPS SHELLED BY THE BRITISH.

(Continued from First Page.)

vision and ammunition trains and was making all possible haste toward the Free State capital. Many Boers were being taken prisoners.

HARASSED BY FRENCH.

Another force of Boers was reported to be feeling from the Spytfontein trenches in a northwesterly direction, and these Gen. French was harassing.

Other despatches from Jacobusdai say Gen. Cronje has been obliged to "outspan." In other words, to form a laager, or camp, in order to rest his oxen.

This explains Gen. Kelly-Kenny's despatch referring to shelling the laager, which also brought long-expected word of Gen. Kitchen's whereabouts.

That the General who so relentlessly pursued the Kaffirs to his doom is supervising the pursuit of Gen. Cronje adds greatly to the confidence of the nation, now so eagerly awaiting further news. If Gen. Tucker, with the Seventh Division, is able to effect the projected junction with the forces of Gen. Kelly-Kenny, while the Ninth Division, under Gen. Colville, is rapidly coming up from the rear, the hero of Mafeking should have a sufficient force to decisively engage Gen. Cronje and prevent him from reaching Spytfontein with an effective force.

BIG AREA OF WAR.

Over the whole Mafeking district there is such tremendous military activity that it is hard to realize the area covered or grasp the full meaning of the movements.

The Boers, though retreating from Mafeking, are active elsewhere. A special despatch from Orange River, dated Friday, Feb. 15, says they are attempting to cut the British line of communication at Graspan. But, it is said they are not likely to effect a serious result. But they are undoubtedly making a strenuous effort to cut the British lines to De Aar.

On the other hand comes the news that Gen. Macdonald has again occupied Koodoosberg. What precautions Lord Roberts has adopted against counterattacks are not yet known, but the War Office and the public are thoroughly convinced that he is fully able to cope with all contingencies and that, if it is within human possibility, he will inflict the defeat on Gen. Cronje that is so much more important than the relief of Kimberley, brilliant as was the latter achievement.

Despatches from Cape Town announce that enthusiastic demonstrations followed the announcement of the relief of Kimberley. Government House was surrounded by huge crowds, and the British High Commissioner and Governor of Cape Colony, Sir Alfred Milner, received an ovation.

The house which Lord Roberts occupied on his arrival at Cape Town was similarly feted, there were parades through the city, cheering for "Boers," and a hostile demonstration outside the new arrival office, a symbolic salute to the Boers and before the residence of Ministers supposed to be in sympathy with the Boers.

The relief of Kimberley was similarly celebrated in other towns of Cape Colony.

ATTACK ON GATACRE.

Boers Open with Artillery on Molteno and Advance Post-Battle in Progress.

LONDON, Feb. 17, 2:37 P. M.—A special despatch from Bitterfontein, dated to-day, says the Boers, with artillery, commenced an attack early this morning on Molteno, near that place, occupied by troops commanded by Gen. Gatacre.

Molteno is about fifteen miles north of Bitterfontein. Gatacre's headquarters, and was occupied early in the campaign by the Boers, then by the British. Gatacre is supposed to have at least 4,000 troops in the neighborhood.

CAPTURED A CONVOY.

Boers Reported